

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for the engine sizing of paper with ~~alkyldiketenes~~ comprising adding alkyldiketenes and a polymer comprising vinylamine units and having a K value as determined in 5% strength aqueous sodium chloride solution at 25 °C, a pH of 7 and a polymer concentration of 0.5% by weight of from 30 to 150 to a surface of paper during an engine sizing step of a papermaking process.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method for the engine sizing of paper with ~~alkyldiketenes~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the K value of the polymer comprising vinylamine units is from 60 to 90.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method for the engine sizing of paper with ~~alkyldiketenes~~ as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymer comprising vinylamine units is a hydrolyzed poly-N-vinylformamide having a degree of hydrolysis of from 1 to 100%.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method for the engine sizing of paper with ~~alkyldiketenes~~ as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymer comprising vinylamine units is a hydrolyzed poly-N-vinylformamide having a degree of hydrolysis of from 70 to 100%.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method for the engine sizing of paper with ~~alkyldiketenes~~ as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymer comprising vinylamine units is polyvinylamine.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method for the engine sizing of paper with alkyldiketenes as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymer comprising vinylamine units is added in an amount of from 0.0001 to 2.0% by weight, based on dry paper stock.